

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Status of the Claims and Explanation of Amendments

Claims 1-12 were pending. By this paper, claims 1-12 are amended and new claim 13 is added. The amendments to claims 1-12 are intended to change functional language into more appropriate structural language. For example, in claim 1 the phrase “a controller which detects” was changed to “a controller adapted to detect.” Similar amendments were made throughout the claims.

New claim 13 is directed to a battery charger having “a converter,” “a controller,” “a switch,” “a detector” and “a reset unit.” The converter is “adapted to control supply of the voltage and the current of the input DC power to the battery and having a first input connector adapted to electrically connect the input DC power to the converter, and a second input connector adapted to electrically connect the input DC power to an output of the converter.” The controller is “connected to the output of the converter and adapted to detect and to control charging of the battery in accordance with a voltage and a current of the battery.” The switch is “adapted to selectively route the input DC power in accordance with the voltage of the input DC power to one of the first input connector and the second input connector.” The detector is “adapted to detect whether a plug is connected to the second input connector.” The reset unit is “adapted to reset an operation of the controller when a voltage supplied to the controller decreases.” The controller also “is adapted to set a quick charging start voltage of the battery in accordance with a detection result of the detector, and wherein the controller executes intermittent charging when the charging current is not more than a first threshold value I_{th1} .”

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Support for this claim is found throughout the application as originally filed, including original claims 1-12.

No new matter will be added to this application by entry of these amendments. These amendments are not made for any substantial reasons related to patentability (§§ 102, 103). Entry is requested.

B. Response to Election Requirement

In response to Examiner's Election Requirement dated April 14, 2006, Applicant provisionally elects to pursue prosecution of Species 1. At least claims 1-2, 6 and 13 are believed to be readable on Species 1. At least claim(s) 13 is also considered to be generic as between the four species identified by the examiner.

This election is made with traverse. Applicant respectfully submits that for such a requirement to be proper, “[t]here must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required.” M.P.E.P. § 803. Applicant respectfully submits that (1) all groups of restricted claims are properly presented in the same application; (2) undue diverse searching should not be required; and (3) all claims should be examined together. For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the election requirement should be withdrawn and an action on the merits of all the claims is respectfully solicited.

Should the election requirement be made final, Applicant expressly reserves the right to represent the non-elected claims in divisional application(s), if necessary. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

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CONCLUSION

This application is respectfully asserted to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable examination on the merits is requested. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO. 1232-5306.

Respectfully submitted,
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